



◀ CERB NEWS ▶

At the November 20, 2003 meeting, CERB approved state loan and grant investments of economic development infrastructure for the Spokane International Airport in the amount of \$1 million.

SPOKANE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT:

The Spokane International Airport, in Spokane County, received conditional approval for an \$800,000 loan and \$200,000 grant that will assist in the retention and creation of 75 aircraft mechanic jobs. The \$1 million in CERB funds will assist SIA to construct a 32,000 square foot aircraft maintenance facility, aircraft conversion shop and office space for lease to Empire Airlines. This project is critical to retain Empire Airlines operations in the state and meet the company's expansion plans.

Empire Airlines currently provides scheduled air freight service for the Federal Express Corporation, with other services including aircraft repair, heavy maintenance and conversion of aircraft from passenger to cargo configurations. The company's future business operations will develop third party aircraft maintenance.

"The State of Washington's investment through the CERB program will allow us to continue to negotiate construction of an aircraft maintenance facility for Empire Airlines," stated John G. Morrison, CEO/Executive Director, Spokane International Airport. "We have been in discussions with Empire Airlines for the last several years regarding this project, but had consistently reached an impasse due to the increased lease rate faced by Empire and the challenge of limited Airport funds to construct the facility. CERB's \$1,000,000 in financing fills this funding gap and allows us to position the airfield to retain these important skilled jobs," concluded Morrison. A decision on constructing an aircraft maintenance facility is scheduled for later this year.

"CERB has a 20-year history of investing in Washington's economic future by encouraging new development and expansion plus retaining existing jobs in the state," said Judith Boekholder, CERB Chair. "The project in Spokane is a good example of the applicability of the state's business development focused public infrastructure program as an economic development tool to support business growth and retention in the state."

The estimated annual state and local revenue created by this project is \$498,711. CERB funds were leveraged with \$2 million from other sources.



At the September 18, 2003 Board meeting the Board gave approval for a \$50,000 grant to fund a feasibility study/site development plan:

REPUBLIC PUBLIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY:

The Republic Public Development Authority, in Ferry County, received conditional approval for a \$50,000 grant to fund a feasibility study/site predevelopment plan for the Republic Public Development Authority. The primary goal is to evaluate the location of a site and prepare for site readiness for a light industrial park to attract new industry to the area. RWE Schott Solar, Inc., the world's seventh largest manufacturer of solar panels, is already in discussions with the PDA to consider a western U.S. plant. The information derived from the study will help the area attract manufacturing businesses and increase economic diversification, even if the Schott siting does not occur.

Membership Update:

CERB welcomes new Board member Dennis Townsend. Mr. Townsend was appointed as the small business representative, east of Puget Sound and west of the Cascades. He brings to the Board 30 years experience in the telecommunications industry, and has served on the Bethel School District Board for the past 12 years, serving as Chair three times. Mr. Townsend also served as a member of the Pierce County Planning Commission and as President of the Graham Business Association for two years.

CERB member Vicki Gordon has been reappointed to the Board to serve an additional three years.

Senator Pat Hale, Legislative District 8, was appointed to serve as the Senate Majority Caucus member; Senator Betti Sheldon, Legislative District 23, was appointed as the Senate Minority Caucus member; Representative Velma Veloria, Legislative District 11, was appointed as the House Majority Caucus member; and Representative Dan Newhouse, Legislative District 15, was appointed as the House Minority Caucus member.

Upcoming CERB Meetings:

January 15, 2004

(Applications due December 1, 2003)

March 18, 2004

(Applications due February 2, 2004)

CERB Board Members and Staff Nov. 2003

GOVERNOR APPOINTED

Judith Boekholder, Board Chair
Toppenish, Washington
City Official

LeRoy Allison
Warden, Washington
County Official

Vicki Gordon
Pasco, Washington
Small Business Representative

Dennis Townsend
Eatonville, Washington
Small Business Representative

Jack Pittis
Port Angeles, Washington
Public Representative

Joe Pinzone
Camas, Washington
Large Business Representative

Vacant
Large Business Representative

Jeffrey Matson, Vice Chair
Sunnyside, Washington
Port Official

Tom Trulove
Cheney, Washington
Public Sector Economist

Leroy Williams
Bremerton, Washington
Small Business Representative

Miland Walling
Bickleton, Washington
Small Business Representative

PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVES

Senator Betti Sheldon
Senate Minority Caucus

Senator Pat Hale
Senate Majority Caucus

Representative Dan Newhouse
House Minority Caucus

Representative Velma Veloria
House Majority Caucus

AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES

Elizabeth Robbins
Dept. of Transportation

Gary Kamimura
Employment Security Dept.

Robin Pollard
Community Trade & Econ. Dev.

Skeets Johnson
Dept. of Revenue

CERB/CEAC

Kate Rothschild
CERB Program Manager

Heike Syben
CERB Program Assistant

Tina Cohen
Special Projects Manager

Dara Fredericksen
CEAC Managing Director

PROJECT DEV. SERVICES

Dick Larman
PDS Managing Director

Brent Bahrenburg
Project Dev. Staff

Terry Lawhead
Project Dev. Staff

Bob Sandoval
Project Dev. Staff

CERB is a state economic development resource strategically focused to help business and industry create and retain jobs in partnership with local communities.

CERB provides financing for construction of public facilities that support private sector development and increased employment opportunities.

Management support is provided by Community, Trade & Economic Development, Washington's lead agency charged with enhancing and promoting sustainable economic vitality throughout the state.

Communities with potential projects are encouraged to contact CERB staff at
360.725.4058 or by e-mail to: KateR@cted.wa.gov



INVESTING IN WASHINGTON'S ECONOMIC FUTURE